plants, low cost sanitation works, crematoria works, etc. were taken up. GAP Phase - II included the major tributaries of Ganga namely, Yamuna, Gomti, Damodar and Mahananda, besides Ganga. GAP Phase II was merged with the National River Conservation Plan (NRCP) in December, 1996, An expenditure of Rs.837.40 crore has been incurred for river Ganga, and a sewage treatment capacity of 1025 million liters per day (mld) has been created so far under both the phases of the Plan.

Water quality monitoring carried out by reputed institutions such as, IIT, Kanpur, BHEL, Patna University, etc. indicates that, water quality of the river Ganga conforms to the prescribed standards in terms of key indicators, namely, Bio-chemical Oxygen Demand (BOD) and Dissolved Oxygen (DO) at most of the locations, except in the stretch between Kannauj and Varanasi in Uttar Pradesh. However, the levels of fecal coliforms are reported to be exceeding the maximum permissible limit at a number of monitoring stations along the river Ganga.

The Central Government has constituted the National Ganga River Basin Authority (NGRBA) under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 on 20th February, 2009 as an empowered planning, financing, monitoring and coordinating authority for conservation of the Ganga River with a holistic river basin approach. The Authority has both regulatory and developmental functions. Action has been initiated for preparation of a comprehensive Ganga river basin management plan which will form the basis for formulation of projects. States have been requested to prepare priority projects for critical pollution hotspots and major towns on Ganga and fast track the implementation of ongoing projects.

Conservation of rivers is an ongoing and collective effort of the Central and State Governments. River conservation activities such as creation of civic infrastructure for sewage management and disposal are also being implemented under other central schemes, such as Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission, Urban Infrastructure Development Scheme for Small and Medium Towns, as well as under state schemes.

Tiger population

2671. SHRI RANJITSINH VIJAYSINH MOHITEPATIL: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the manner in which Government plans to increase the tiger population;

(b) the steps being taken to save the tigers from the poachers, State-wise;

(c) the number of tigers died due to illness/poaching during the last two years, till date; and

(d) the details of poachers arrested/sentenced during the above period, till date?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) and (b) The milestone initiatives taken by the Government of India for protection of tigers and other wild animals are given in the statement [Refer to the statement appeneded to the Answer to Unstarred Question No. 2642 (a) to (f)]

(c) The details of tiger mortality as reported by States and the information gathered from the Wildlife Crime Control Bureau are given in the statement (see below).

(d) The enforcement of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972, is done by States, hence information on poachers arrested/sentenced is not collated at the Government of India level.

Statement

Details of tiger mortality (as reported by States and information gathered from the Wildlife Crime Control Bureau) during last two years and current year

(As on 8.12.2009)

S. No.	Year	Poaching	Illness & other causes	Total
1.	2007	10	20	30
2.	2008	6	22	28
3.	2009	15	44	59

India's stand on emission norms

2672. DR. (SHRIMATI) NAJMA A. HEPTULLA:
SHRI MAHENDRA MOHAN:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the international meets on climate change that the country has attended till now and of the ones that are going to be held in near future;

(b) what has been country's stand on climate change in all these meets;

(c) whether there has been any international pressure to accept stricter emission norms;

(d) if so, from which countries; and

(e) what has been country's response thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) and (b) India is a Party to United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and its Kyoto Protocol and has been participating in Conference of Parties held every years and other related meetings. The COP-15 to UNFCCC is presently being held in Copenhagen, Denmark from 7-18 December 2009. India's position on the climate change negotiations is clear and consistent as it is fully anchored in the UNFCCC and Bali Action Plan, adopted in the 13th Conference of Parties (COP-13) to United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) was held in Bali, Indonesia in 2007, with a view to enhance the actions of Parties in achieving objectives of the Convention.

(c) to (e) India has argued in the international negotiating fora that the parties must take actions in accordance with the UNFCCC principles of equity and 'common but differentiated